AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A system for sharing secure sockets layer (SSL) sessions across multiple processes comprising:

an application process;

an SSL daemon process;

an SSL wrapper process; and

a plurality of SSL application programming interface (API) calls for communication between the application process and SSL wrapper process, for communication between the SSL wrapper process and the SSL daemon process, and for communication between the SSL daemon process and at least one SSL session.

2. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the SSL wrapper process receives ~~a~~ requests for ~~an~~ SSL sessions from an application program, determines ~~a~~whether ~~the~~ request is for a shared ~~or unshared~~ SSL session, passes the requests for ~~the~~a shared SSL session to the SSL daemon process, receives a return code from the SSL daemon process, and passes the return code to the application program.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2 wherein the requests received by the SSL wrapper process include a first input parameter, the first input parameter indicating whether or not a shared SSL session is requested.

4. (Original) The system of claim 2 wherein the SSL wrapper process receives a second input parameter and passes the second input parameter to the SSL daemon process, the second input parameter comprising the data the application process requests secured by an SSL session.

5. (Original) The system of claim 2 wherein the SSL daemon process receives a request for a shared SSL session from the SSL wrapper process, passes requests for a shared SSL session to a shared SSL session, receives a return code from the SSL session, and passes the return code to the SSL wrapper process.

6. (Original) The system of claim 4 wherein the SSL daemon process receives a second input parameter from the application process and passes the second input parameter to the SSL session.

7. (Currently amended) A method for sharing secure sockets layer (SSL) sessions across multiple processes, comprising:

receiving, by at least one SSL wrapper process, ~~receiving~~ a request for a shared SSL session from an application process;

receiving, by an SSL daemon process, ~~receiving~~ at least one request for a shared SSL session from the SSL wrapper process;

calling, by the SSL daemon process, ~~calling~~ at least one SSL session;

receiving, by the SSL daemon process, ~~receiving~~ at least one return code from at least one called SSL session;

receiving, by at least one SSL wrapper process, ~~receiving~~ at least one return code from the SSL daemon process; and

passing by, at least one SSL wrapper process, ~~passing~~ a return code to the application process.

8. (Original) The method in claim 7 wherein a request for an SSL session includes a first input parameter, the first input parameter indicating whether or not a shared SSL session is requested.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the SSL wrapper process communicates with the application process using SSL application programming interface (API) calls, the SSL wrapper process communicates with the SSL daemon process using SSL application programming interface (API) calls, and the SSL daemon process communicates with SSL sessions using SSL application programming interface (API) calls.

10. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer useable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for performing a method for sharing secure sockets layer (SSL) sessions across multiple processes, ~~the computer readable program in said article of manufacture~~the method comprising:

~~computer readable program code for causing a computer to~~ receivinge, by an SSL wrapper process, a request for an SSL session from an application process;

~~, to~~ determininge, by the SSL wrapper process, whether the request is for a shared SSL session or an unshared SSL session;

~~, to~~ passing, by the SSL wrapper process, thea request ~~for a shared SSL session~~ to an SSL daemon process, when the request is for the shared SSL session;

~~, and to~~ receivinge, by the SSL wrapper process, a return code from the SSL daemon process, when the request is for the shared SSL session;

~~computer readable program code for causing a computer to receive at least one request for a shared SSL session~~

~~, to~~ calling, by the SSL wrapper process, an SSL session, when the request is for the unshared SSL session; and

~~, to~~ receivinge, by the SSL wrapper process, a return code from the SSL session, when the request is for the unshared SSL session.

~~, and to pass a return code to an SSL wrapper process.~~

11. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 10 ~~further comprising computer readable program code for causing a computer to receive a request for an SSL session~~, wherein the request includes a first input parameter indicating whether the request is for the~~or not a~~ shared SSL session or the unshared SSL session~~is requested~~.

12. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 11~~10 further comprising computer readable program code for causing a computer to receive a request for an SSL session~~, wherein the request includes a second input parameter, the second input parameter being the data the~~an~~ application process requests to be secured by an SSL session.